

## THE WAR IN THE SOUTH WEST.

Continued from First Page.

that when he entered the city his men scattered and became unmanageable, and that before he could get enough together to carry out his designs the firing in the streets became so hot that he thought best to depart before his retreat was cut off. He also stated to my informant that Gen. Smith's expedition has reached and occupied Oxford since he left that place of Thursday. If this is true he will find much difficulty in effecting a junction with the part of his army that he left there. After the last fight near the picket-line on the 2d the Rebels became panic-stricken with the idea that another Federal force was yet to be encountered, and almost rode over each other in their haste to prevent the imaginary blue-coats from heading them off.

New items of barbarism committed by the Rebels on Sunday are hourly coming to light. Besides the consciousness taken from the Gayoso Hospital and shot because he could not walk fast enough to keep up with the retreat, three men in the hospital of the 13th Illinois, who were too sick to get off their coils, were shot as they lay and then bayoneted. Two privates of the 7th Wisconsin Battery, who were captured while they were asleep, were approached and shot without a moment's warning as they were being taken to the rear. One of them was fifty years old.

Information from Gen. Smith is anxious and hourly expected, as it is thought that he may succeed in throwing a force in front of Forrest as to stop his retreat, or what would be better, drive his back to within reach of our forces at and around Memphis, in which event his capture would be inevitable.

## Arrival of Generals A. J. Smith and Grierson at Memphis.

Caro., Sept. 3, 1864.

Memphis papers of the 30th ult. announce the arrival there of Generals Smith and Grierson, with their respective staffs.

## FROM THE ARMY OF THE POTOMAC

## Exemption—Deserters Coming in.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,

September 3—6 a. m.

Private Selden S. Chandler, of Battery K, 4th U. S. Artillery, suffered the extreme penalty of the law for having deserted from his command during active operations. A detail from the Provost Guard of the 3d Division of the 2d Corps performed the sad duty. The culprit addressed his fellow soldiers, admonishing them against the crime of desertion. He then sat down on his coffin, when the chaplain made a prayer, after which his eyes were bandaged. In a few minutes he gave the sign that he was ready, and eight bullets entered his breast and head, killing him instantly. He leaves a wife and two daughters to mourn his fate.

Another culprit named Alander was to have suffered the same fate, but managed to effect his escape through our lines to the enemy two days ago.

Dr. John D. Heritage, of the 11th New York Volunteers, has been missing since the fight of the 29th of August on the Weldon road. It is not known whether he was killed or taken prisoner.

Deserters come in nightly, claiming the benefits of Gen. Grant's late order, giving them protection and employment if they wish it, but not forcing them into service. Twelve came in yesterday.

All is quiet along the line this morning, scarcely a shot being heard.

## FROM GEN. SHERIDAN.

## The Rebels in Retreat—Our Forces Pursuing.

WAR DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON, Sept. 3.

To Major-General Dix.—A telegram from General Sheridan states that Early has retreated up the Shenandoah Valley, and is pursued by Sheridan with his whole army; that Averill had attacked Vaughan's cavalry and captured twenty wagons, two battle-dags, a number of prisoners, and a herd of cattle.

EDWIN M. STANTON,

Secretary of War.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 3.

The following official dispatch was received last night:

The enemy are on the move up the valley, falling back toward Winchester.

Averill attacked and drove Vaughan's Cavalry from some point North of Bunker Hill to within six miles of Winchester, when his advance was stopped by a division of infantry.

Averill captured twenty wagons, two battle-dags, a number of prisoners, and a herd of cattle. He then moved toward Berryville.

Gen. Sheridan moved last night with his whole army in pursuit.

## Latest Rebel News.

Special Dispatch to the N. Y. Tribune.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 4, 1864.

The Richmond *Sentinel* of Thursday last contains the following telegrams:

LYNCHBURG, Aug. 31.—Gen. Wheeler has burned London bridge over the Tennessee river. Thence he went to Morristown and captured several hundred prisoners, and thence to Newmarket, where he captured the 11th more, all of whom were sent to South Carolina.

EDWIN M. STANTON,

Secretary of War.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 3, 1864.

The heavy rains Saturday night and Sunday morning caused an unprecedented fire in Lecking river, Kellerville's and Ellington's bridges, on the Kentucky Central Railroad, near Cynthiana, were washed away. A large number of coal barges, lying near the mouth of the river were carried away, and one or two sank. A log struck the steamer Henry Fitchburg, and sunk her. Her cabin floated off and was carried into the Ohio. It is supposed that other damages were caused in this neighborhood.

MURKIN, Aug. 31, 1864.

MY DEAR SIR: The non-combatants of Murkine give me more concern than all else. They will not go away—say they have nowhere to go. You can aid us greatly by causing planters to notify the editors here that they can receive and shelter so many of this class until it may be safe for them to return to the city. Their presence here during active hostilities will greatly hinder the defense.

With great respect and in haste, yours truly,

DANIEL H. MAURY.

From copies of *The Register* and *Trumbull*, which reached us this morning, we learn that there is no important change in the situation.

THE EXCHANGE OF PRISONERS—SIX UNION VESSELS OFF RODD RIVER BAR.

From the Richmond Examiner, Sept. 1.

MOBILE, Aug. 31, 1864.—A flag-of-truce boat has arrived, bringing letters and papers from New Orleans, from the prisoners captured in Mobile Bay. The Confederate surgeons are to be sent by the first boat to Pensacola.

OSAGE, Miss., August 29.—The enemy, seven thousand strong, is in full retreat for the river. Colonel Scott has all the roads blockaded in their front. Colonel McCallum is between them and the river. Colonel Ogden, with his command, and Major Campbell, with the first Louisiana Artillery, are in pursuit. Prisoners are still coming in. Captain Barthow's battery is close to the river.

ATLANTA, Aug. 30.—The enemy has occupied the West Point Railroad, and is fortifying and removing the track. Our scouts report the Federal cavalry advancing last night in the direction of West Point. Col. M. H. Coffey, sixth Kentucky Regiment, has received the appointment of Provost-Marshal-General of our army, and entered upon his duties this morning.

*The Sentinel* says (editorially) that the Yankees in North Mississippi are moving toward Memphis with the purpose of reinforcing Sherman, and it is believed that another Yankee raid is about to emerge from Vicksburg, which, however, Forrest will look after.

It also says Grant has adopted a new mode of warfare against Petersburg, and is now engaged in throwing up great banks in such a manner that they fall upon the houses and crush them by their weight. This sounds like an assault on women and children, says *The Sentinel*, should be punished by opening another Libby in Petersburg.

THE YANKEES HOLD THE WELDON ROAD—SHELLING OF PETERSBURG.

From the Richmond *Whig*, August 31.

The Yankees still hold the Weldon road in heavy force, in spite of the terrible drizzling they received on Thursday. They proceed not doubt upon the principle that it is best to make the most of a bad bargain, and that one has the Weldon road to himself, but what care they for dead or wounded, save that they lose so many living machines of foreign importation from the ranks of their army.

The situation, we learn, remains unchanged, as far as the relative position of the two armies is concerned, but the shelling of the city has rather increased than diminished. *The Express* says:

An unbroken roar of artillery sounded on the air throughout the day yesterday, increasing in intensity during the afternoon. What, with the echoes resounding from the neighboring heights, the roar of woods, and floating back upon the waters of the Appomattox, we had a day of martial music, of which the most devoted soldier of ancient or modern times might have been proud.

It is stated that the term of service of Grant's hundred days' men expires this week. Their terms on a sort of pleasure excursion, and a bloody one it has been. Some have died of disease, others have found bloody graves, and scores are dropped up in Southern prisons. The remainder, we

## EXPECTED PURSUIT OF FOREST AND WHEELER.

From the Richmond Examiner, Sept. 1.

The force of the enemy recently gathered in Northern Mississippi, as it was supposed, for a rear attack upon Mobile, are moving towards Memphis, they say, for the purpose of reinforcing Sherman. Trost-Worthy information has been received at Mobile that a Yankee raid is organizing to issue from Vicksburg.

Though the Yankee force moving from Mississippi towards Memphis say their destination is Atlanta, we think the truth is they are going to hunt up Forrest and Wheeler, both of whom have recently mysteriously disappeared in Sherman's rear.

SHERIDAN'S FORCES RETREATING.

From the Richmond Examiner, Sept. 1.

A gentleman who was in Yorktown, in the lower valley, at the time the Yankees came up during their last demonstration, furnishes *The Harrisonburg Register* with the following report of their operations:

General Sheridan travelled "in state," riding in a fine carriage drawn by four splendid gray horses. The Yankee force, he thinks, numbered not less than thirty thousand, of all arms, a very large proportion of which was cavalry, handsomely equipped, and riding excellent horses.

They consumed eleven hours in passing a given point at a double quick in going back.

The troops were greatly demoralized, especially on their retreat. They broke up a great many of their guns and threw others in wells. They burned all the hay and grain within reach, in numerous cases setting fire to barns in order to destroy the hay and grain. They destroyed not less than twenty-five barns and stockyards in sight of Newtown.

They assigned for a reason for burning the grain and hay that we had burned Chambersburg.

During the whole of yesterday the enemy poured a furious and continuous fire of shot and shell upon the town—doing however little or no damage. Today all is comparatively quiet.

Grant's forces, in alluding to the constant shelling of Petersburg, says:

There is only one way to make them stop, and that is to place the thousands of persons taken by the Weldon Railroad in that portion of the town subject to their shelling. It would be more effective than anything else, except driving them from our vicinity. Let bomb-proof be erected for the protection of the garrison, but let the prisoners be so arranged as to be exposed to the bursting of the shells.

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They killed and drove off all the cattle, hogs and sheep, horses, wagons, carriages, buggies, dogs, poultry of all kinds, destroyed all the gardens and took all the provisions of all kinds they could find.

They retreated after night. They came upon the 11th and remained about four days.

The troops were the worst behaved set of men the people of that region ever saw. They were perfectly lawless.

It is said they hung one of our men—a North Carolina soldier—at Millcreek, charging him with being a spy.

A desolate track marked their progress wherever they went.

## THE PRIVATEERS.

A NEW-YORK VESSEL CAPTURED BY THE FLORIDA.

A letter received in this city by H. H. Swift &amp; Co., from Harry Foster &amp; Co., of Pernambuco, dated July 29, contains the following report, which seems to confirm the rumor that the pirate Florida is off the Brazilian coast at the end of July. The writer says:

GRANT said, "I will fight it out on this line if it takes all summer." This boast was uttered in Pennsylvania in the flower month of May, three months and two days ago. Yesterday was the last day of the summer allotted to, and I found Grant South of the James and Appomattox, having pretty effectively fought himself out, if he has not fought "it out." The Summer being concluded we presume he will consider himself relieved from all obligations to fight or remain longer on "this line," and free to seek another. Apropos of this idea, there is a report that he is preparing to cross the North side of the James and Chickahominy Rivers, at Walkers Wharf and Forge Bridge.

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